

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

PR & RD Department – Filing a defamation suit on the Managing Director, Eenadu News Paper for publishing the adverse, libelous, scandalous, untruthful, unfounded, per se defamatory, derogatory news published in Eenadu Main News Paper on 04.01.2023 under the caption "CM SABHA KOCCHI KAALU KOLPOINA VRUDHURAALU"(సిఎం సభకు వచ్చి కాలు కోల్పోయిన వృద్ధురాలు)" – Sanction of State Government to launch Prosecution under section 199 (2) of Cr.PC and to file defamation suit – Accorded orders – Issued.

PANCHAYAT RAJ & RURAL DEVELOPMENT (VIG-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.171.

Dated:11-04-2023.

Read the following:-

- 1) News Item published in Eenadu Main News Paper, dated:04.01.2023 under caption "CM SABHA KOCCHI KAALU KOLPOINA VRUDHURAALU".
- 2) From the Chief Executive Officer, SERP, Lr.No.17021/11/2023-PROJ MANG-ADMIN-SERP, dated:06.02.2023.
- 3) G.O.Rt.No.938, GA(Poll.D) Dept., dated 20.02.2007.
- 4) G.O.Rt.No.2430, GA(I&PR)Dept., dated 30.10.2019.
- 5) Letter No.1983598/DS(VIG)/2023,PR&RD Dept., Dt:07.02.2023.
- 6) Notice dated 09.02.2023 given by the State Public Prosecutor, High Court of A.P., Amaravathi, Guntur District, A.P.
- 7) From the State Public Prosecutor, High Court of A.P., at Amaravathi Lr.No.27/2023, dated 10.03.2023.

ORDER:-

In the first read above, a News item has been published in Eenadu Telugu daily news paper dated 04.01.2023 under the caption "CM SABHA KOCCHI KAALU KOLPOINA VRUDHURAALU" (సిఎం సభకు వచ్చి కాలు కోల్పోయిన వృద్ధురాలు)".

2. In the letter second read above, the Chief Executive Officer, Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada has informed that, an adverse news item has been published in the Eenadu News paper with "CM SABHA KOCCHI KAALU KOLPOINA VRUDHURAALU" (సిఎం సభకు వచ్చి కాలు కోల్పోయిన వృద్ధురాలు) Caption in the headlines published on 04.01.2023 in Eenadu-Telugu News Paper daily, which is libelous, scandalous, untruthful, unfounded, per se defamatory, derogatory news. It was alleged in the said news paper that an old lady who has come from her native village Rajamahendravaram by bus and while crossing the road she was hit by an oncoming vehicle and one on her legs were amputated. It was further alleged that this incident took place on the day of Hon'ble Chief Minister Jagan's road show and it has gone viral on social media that the accident happened while the old woman was coming to attend CM's meeting.

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3. The news published in the Eenadu is factually incorrect and it leads to misconception in the minds of the public and it has failed to present the true facts with regard to the incident happened, despite being aware of the fact that the old lady namely Smt. Arji Parvathi, resident of Namavaram Village had come to Rajahmundry for her personal work and while returning back to her home town by bus she slipped and fell down on the road and the bus which was coming from the opposite direction ran over on her legs and as a consequence she succumbed severe injuries and subsequently she was taken to the hospital for better treatment. Smt. Arji Parvathi, resident of Rajiv Gruha Kalpa Apartments No.156 G5 Satellite City of has met with accident on 03.01.2023 at Lalacheruvu, Rajamahendravaram. She has come to Rajamahendravaram for treatment for dog bites. She has not attended the Hon'ble Chief Ministers programme on YSR Enhanced Pension Kanuka Celebrations held at Arts College, Rajamahendravaram on 03.01.2023. The most important fact Smt. Arji Parvathi is not a pensioner at all under YSR Pension Kanuka Scheme. Her husband Sri Raji Vira Satyanarayana old age pensioners with ID No.104135779, she was not invited in attending the programme at all. Therefore, in view of the above, facts, the news published in the said Eenadu Newspaper is misleading the facts, which are nothing, but making defamatory statements against the Hon'ble Chief Minister, which amounts to defamation. Further, the newspaper contains several false allegations and statements and is based on a wholly erroneous understanding and interpretation of the facts relating to the incident, which has caused enormous prejudice to the Hon'ble Chief Minister and affected and damaged the reputation and integrity in the eyes of the public. After considering the above facts, it is a deliberate attempt to tarnish the image of the Government by publishing false news.

4. Government have, examined the matter with reference to the orders issued in the G.O.3rd and 4th read above, wherein powers have been delegated to the Secretaries of respective departments to issue rejoinders, file complaints and lodge appropriate cases, under sub section (4) of section 199 Cr.P.C., if need be, through Public Prosecutor against defamatory news items published/telecast/posted in print/electronic/social media pertaining to their respective Departments after following due procedure.

5. Accordingly, vide 5th read above, the State Public Prosecutor, High Court of A.P., Guntur District was authorized to issue a legal notice against the Editor and others of Eenadu Telugu News Paper responsible for publishing defamatory, Derogatory and Venomous news which is devoid of truth. The State Public Prosecutor has issued a notice to the parties therein vide reference 6th read above. The State Public Prosecutor, High Court of A.P., vide his letter 7th read above, has requested to get valid sanction from the State Government to launch prosecution under section 199 (2) of Cr.P.C.

6. Government after careful examination of the matter and all the facts and circumstances of the case consider that the said news items containing the allegations under the above captions against the Hon'ble Chief Minister appear to be defamatory in nature and likely to cause harm to the reputation of the Hon'ble Chief Minister and also mar the prestige and dignity of the Hon'ble Chief Minister very badly, and it is expedient to launch necessary prosecution against the Chief Editor/Managing Director of Eenadu Telugu Daily News Paper in a Hon'ble Jurisdictional Court.

7. Government in exercise of powers conferred under Section 199(2) of Cr.P.C, 1973 hereby, accord sanction to launch prosecution and to file defamation suit against the Chief Editor/Managing Director of Eenadu Telugu Daily News Paper regarding libelous, scandalous, untruthful, unfounded, per se defamatory, derogatory news item published in Eenadu Telugu Daily News Paper dated 04.01.2023 under the caption "CM SABHA KOCCHI KAALU KOLPOINA VRUDHURAALU"(సీఎం సభకు వచ్చి కాలు కోల్పోయిన వృద్ధురాలు), which is highly defamatory in nature.

8. The State Public Prosecutor, High Court of A.P., shall take immediate further action in the matter, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

**B. RAJSEKHAR,
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To

✓ The State Public Prosecutor, High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravati.

Copy to:

The Chief Executive Officer, SERP, A.P., Vijayawada.

The Law (F) Department.

SF/SC.

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

S. Rama Rao
SECTION OFFICER
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